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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: INOUE, Takakazu

Serial No.: 10/069,977

Filed: March 13, 2002

Group Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Joyce Tung

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 2998

For: METHOD OF ANALYZING INTESTINAL FLORA AND ANALYTICAL

APPARATUS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE GROUP ART UNIT 1637

MAILSTOP AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 18, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows: